

allocated for this purpose have been diverted elsewhere. Please reply to only these two questions.

[English]

Shri M. Arunachalam : As the hon. Member is very well aware, Delhi's development is being done by Delhi Development Authority. Delhi Development Authority is acquiring land and are giving the land to the societies as also plots for the poorer sections of the people.

About the figures. I will get back to you.

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee : The order of the problem is indicated by the facts and figures that 80 million dwelling units need to be constructed which means, seven crores of families need dwelling units. My first question is, how many households are there in the country of which these seven crores require to be housed? That is the part one of the questions. This excludes the slum dwellers. I know one of the last problems to be solved in any society is the housing problem. The dimension of the problem is such that I cannot blame the Government from that angle. What is the anticipation of the Government when they say that black money would be inducted, black money would be utilised for the housing sector?

How many dwelling units are they anticipating in the current Budget from this investment of black money? That is the second part of the question. (Interruptions). I am talking about the pavement dwellers. Dwelling on the pavement is altogether a different problem.

Mr. Speaker : Please put a pointed question.

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee : How many shelters for pavement dwellers in the urban areas do they propose to construct, and how many

of them, who are without any dwelling units, would be covered because there is no emphasis on such construction of big shelters with adequate sleeping arrangements?

Shri M. Arunachalam : About the shortage of housing units, we have given it in the answer itself. Regarding the other matters raised by the hon. Member, I will collect the figures and place it before the House.

Mother Tongue as Medium of Instruction at Primary Stage of Education

*184. **Shri Bhagey Gobardhan :** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to issue instructions to States having Scheduled Areas for providing adequate facilities for instruction in the mother tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to the Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken for promotion and development of tribal languages?

The Minister of Human Resource Development (Shri Arjun Singh) : (a) and (b) : A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Article 350-A of the Constitution lays down that 'it shall be the endeavour of every state and of every local authority within the state to provide adequate facility for instruction in the mother tongue at primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups'. Accordingly, it has been the policy of the Government to provide such facilities for students belonging to linguistic minorities where atleast 40 students in a school or 10 in a class so desire.

2. As school education is being managed by the states, they have by and large been following this policy and have initiated action at their level. In addition, the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore

produces language text books and teaching material through other media like audio, video and computer; prepares grammars, dictionaries, primers, etc. in many tribal languages; holds workshops for training of teachers in the use of teaching materials, etc. It also prepares bilingual primers that begin the education of tribal children in their tribal language and gradually switch them over to the state language by the end of the primary stage.

Shri Bhagey Gobardhan : The answer tabled by the hon. Minister is evasive; not only evasive but it is partly untruthful.

In regard to part (a) of the question, the hon. Minister has quoted Article 350-A of the Constitution of India, only in part, although I expected that he would have quoted it in full. This is because the first part of the answer actually relates to the second part of that constitutional provision.

I would like to know whether the directions of the President of India, have been issued to all the States to provide facilities for instruction to the tribal children in their mother-tongue. This is the question. But here the Minister has said that there has been a policy that wherever there are schools in these areas and linguistic minority group children are there, if their total number is 40 in a school and in a class the number of such students is 10 or more, then, if they so desire, such facilities will be made available. I would like to ask one very pointed question : Whether the Minister is aware that in the year 1984, when the working group on the development of Scheduled Tribes and made a specific recommendation for a policy to be adopted. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker : This is becoming a lecture.

Shri Bhagey Gobardhan : All right. I just want to know whether in the eight States, where the Scheduled

areas are existing, the tribal students are being given education in their mother-tongue or not in primary schools in those areas.

Shri Arjun Singh : Sir, I would like to assure the hon. Member that I may err but I will not try to avoid coming to the Lok Sabha with whatever information is in my possession. I would beg leave and come again, if that be so. The question, as the hon. Member has rightly pointed out, is to what extent we are able at the moment to provide education in the mother-tongue to the tribal population. I concede straightaway that the extent to which this was required and is required is not being done at the moment. I am not leaving it; I am stating this very clearly. The difficulties that have come up are there. I have gone into this matter in depth and I would like to inform the hon. Member, through you Sir, that within this Session, I will be requesting all the hon. Members of the Scheduled Tribes in this House to sit together so that we can find ways and means to see that the directions required in this regard are given, see where they are not being followed are followed and what other measures are needed are taken up. This is because I give the highest priority to the education of Scheduled Tribes children.

Shri Bhagey Gobardhan : I am very much thankful to the hon. Minister for having given us the assurance. At the same time I would like to ask one more question. I would like to know whether the quality of primary education referred to in the presidential speech of 11th July 1991 and also referred to in the Budget speech of the hon. Finance Minister necessarily means that the funds will be provided not only during this year but also in the years to come for quality primary education which will also be inclusive of education through mother tongue at the primary stages as per the prescription of Article 350 A of the Constitution for which 7th amendment was brought out as early as in 1956 by hon. late Pandit Nehru.

Shri Arjun Singh : So far as the question of provision of funds is concerned, this is a matter primarily lying with the State Governments in their spheres. I cannot be answering what kind of funds are being made available in different States. It is obvious that the resource problem is a problem all over the country and it is a problem for all the States as well as the Centre. I can only say that I will make use of the feelings of the hon. Members of this House to impress upon our own Finance Minister to help me out.

[Translation]

Shri Kalka Das : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has given an assurance just now that after consulting all the sections a scheme will be formulated as to how the Adivasis could be imparted education in their mother tongue. In view of this I would like to know from him, through you, whether any special steps have been taken to impart education to students belonging to Scheduled Tribes in their own mother tongue. How many hostels have been opened for them and whether any special facilities are being provided to them. I would like to know whether any incentive is being given to them to attract them towards education and make them self-reliant.

Shri Arjun Singh : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as soon as I get the necessary information I would inform the hon. Member. (Interruptions).

Shri Kalka Das : I want to say that the students belonging to Scheduled Tribes are not getting any facilities. (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker : The primary schools are situated in different states and the statistics and information has to be collected. It is very difficult for the Minister to have full information right at the moment.

(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Speaker : I am disallowing this question.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Shri Satyanarayan Jatiya : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has long and varied experience in the field of education. He said just now that the Government was going to introduce something new in this field but at the same time he added that due to resource constraints everything could not be done. Mr. Speaker, Sir, education is a basic need of the people and therefore new schemes should be formulated to encourage scheduled tribes so that they could receive education in their mother tongue. I would, therefore, like to know whether Central Government would allocate funds required for this purpose.

Shri Arjun Singh : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already said here that so far as funds were concerned, we could not say anything on behalf of the states. Shri Jatiya can use his good offices for this purpose but in the present circumstances we have to work keeping in view our limitations.

[English]

Shri Sriballav Panigrahi : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is aware of the fact that there are some languages which are spoken by a large number of tribal people; they are not tribal languages as such, but such languages do possess the characteristic features for being called separate languages and they are not recognised. In such languages instructions to the primary children are not given. Therefore, there is a difficulty arising out of this.

Mr. Speaker : Please come out with the question.

Shri Sriballav Panigrahi : I am putting the question, Sir, as a matter of instance, Sambalpur in Orissa is spoken in more than five Districts by

more than a crore people including fifty lakh tribal people. So, may I know whether the Government would consider the proposal to recognise that language for the purpose of imparting education in primary stages?

Mr. Speaker: No, this is not allowed.

Shri Hannan Mollah: Sir the question is regarding the medium of instruction in Mother Tongue in tribal areas. As we are aware, many of the tribal languages are spoken, but they have no script. Sir, you are also aware that in West Bengal.....

Mr. Speaker: Please put the question, because there are many others also who want to put question.

Shri Hannan Mollah: For Alchi-ki in West Bengal and Kokborg in Tripura, scripts have been developed and those scripts are also introduced in West Bengal and Tripura. May I know in how many States, with the help of the Central Government, an attempt is being made to develop the tribal language and to develop the script of the language?

Mr. Speaker: This is disallowed.

(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker: This is not relevant. Q. No. 185.

(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker: Q. No. 186.

(Interruptions)

An Hon. Member: Sir, the hon. Minister has already given the answer for Q. No. 185. *(Interruptions)*.

Mr. Speaker: That question was not put. I am going to the next question. That question was not put. Q. No. 186, Shri Madan Lal Khurana.

Aids Through Common Needle to Test Malaria

*186. **Shri Madan Lal Khurana:** Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) whether proper safeguards are not observed to check the spread of AIDS through the common needle used to prick the fingers of the persons to carry out tests for Malaria in the C.G.H.S. dispensaries and elsewhere in that the needle is not sterilised; and

(b) if so, the measures taken in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Shrimati D. K. Tharadevi Siddhartha): (a) and (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

At present, Malaria workers deployed to work for purposes of malaria control by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi/New Delhi Municipal Committee, in Central Government Health Scheme dispensaries use a special needle (lancet) for pricking the finger to take blood smear. Disinfection is done by immersing the needle in cotton soaked spirit. In the rural areas blood smears are taken by multi-purpose health workers. A special needle is used for taking blood smears and spirit is used for disinfection.

The Directorate General of Health Services has issued instructions recently regarding the sterilisation methods to be adopted by Malaria workers working in Central Government Health Scheme dispensaries and to the Directorate of Health Services in the State/Union Territories.

[Translation]

Shri Madan Lal Khurana: Mr. Speaker, Sir, reply has been given about the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Committee only whereas I have asked the question about the whole country and not about Delhi only.

I would like to know whether the Ministry has received complaints that a common needle is used for taking the blood from professional donors